

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 RSR-01 /178 W

----- 007908

R 081835 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5181

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASS THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VALLETA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 2550

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, MT

SUBJ: MINTOFF VISIT TO THE EC COMMISSION

1. DURING PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF' S VIST TO BRUSSELS MAY 2,
HE MET WITH EC OFFICIALS INCLUDING EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT
ORTOLI AND VICE PRESIDENT SOAMES.

2. A MALTESE MISSION SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT, IN GENERAL,
THE MEETINGS WENT WELL. HE STATES THAT MINTOFF HAD EXPRESSED
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 02550 082043 Z

VERY CLEARLY HIS UNHAPPINESS WITH THE VERY SLOW RATE OF PROGRESS THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED EC- MALTA RELATIONS SINCE THE MEETING OF THE EC- MALTA COUNCIL OF ASSOCIATION IN APRIL 1972. MINTOFF CONTINUED HIS PREVIOUS DEMANDS THAT THE COMMUNITY PROMPTLY OPEN NEGOTIATION WITH MALTA OF A NEW AGREEMENT THAT WOULD HAVE A MEANINGFUL AGRICULTURAL CONTENT AND WOULD INCLUDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE COMMUNITY. IN HIS TALKS AT THE COMMISSION, MINTOFF PLACED PARTICULAR STRESS ON MALTA'S PRESSING NEED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT MINTOFF'S DEMANDS WITH REGARD TO INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION REPRESENTED A MODIFICATION IN PRIORITIES SINCE IN THE PAST, PRIMARY STRESS HAS BEEN PLACED ON FINANCIAL AID WHEN TALKING TO THE COMMUNITY.

3. COMMISSION OFFICIALS, IN RESPONDING TO MINTOFF, REITERATED THAT MALTA IS CONSIDERED A PRIORITY CASE WITHIN THE MEDITERRANEAN BUT THAT UNTIL THE CONTENTS OF THE GLOBAL POLICY IN THE AREA IS CLARIFIED, THE COMMUNITY CANNOT OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPECIFIC COUNTRIES. THE COMMISSION ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF AN ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE PRESENT EC- MALTA AGREEMENT WHICH UNDER ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED BY THE END OF 1973 IN ORDER TO PROTECT MALTA'S POSITION IN THE UK MARKET. MINTOFF APPARENTLY CONTINUES TO TREAT THE NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL RATHER CAVALIERLY AND SHOWED NO GREAT INTEREST IN COMMUNITY ARGUMENTS IN THIS REGARD. OUR MALTESE SOURCE WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY (PRIVATELY) THAT MINTOFF MIGHT BE PREPARED TO CUT OFF HIS NOSE TO SPITE HIS FACE ON THIS ISSUE. GREENWALD

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Subject: MINTOFF VISIT TO THE EC COMMISSION
TAGS: ETRD, MT, EEC
To: AMEMBASS THE HAGUE
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COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EUR
GENEVA

LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

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